Phoenix Historical Society
Organized in 1998; Opened in 1999

Margaret Croly, Editor
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The Gasburg Gazette

Volume 7, Issue 1 Winter 2011

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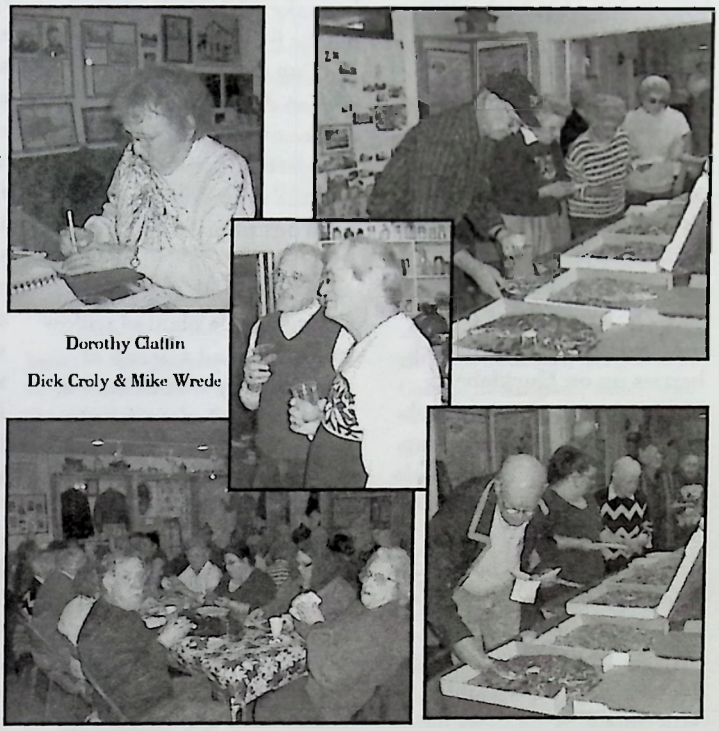
Christmas at the Museum

The annual Phoenix Historical Society's Christmas celebration was very well attended and held December 14th at the Phoenix Museum. Members enjoyed several varieties of pizza, a great selection of hors d'oeuvres, yummy desserts and various drinks. The festively decorated rooms were alive with the hum of visiting and surrounded by the mood of the holiday season.

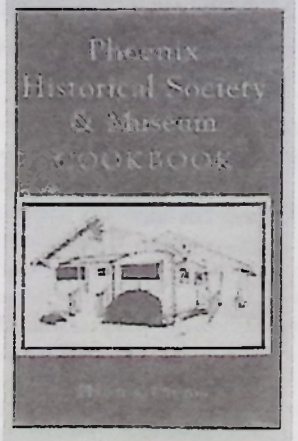
In lieu of a gift exchange, donations were made to benefit future projects for the Phoenix Historical Society.



Dorothy Claflin

Dick Croly & Mike Wrede

Cookbooks For Sale



Available at $15.00

The Pioneer Furry Family, by Nannette Furry Wrede, continued from Fall *Gasburg Gazette*

My dad, Raymond Furry, was known by a few of you here. He was a good man and respected and overcame the disease of alcoholism which made me very proud of him. He was first an orchard foreman and then a ditch rider for the Talent Irrigation District. After December 7, 1941 he found out he was too old for the army. He then picked up his tool chest and helped build the very large army base at Camp White, now where White City is. Do you know there were German prisoners of war there at that time? He also helped build Camp Farragut in Idaho at Lake Pend Oreille near Boise. It was a very secret inland naval training center, the 2nd largest in the world. Over 293,000 sailors trained there during its 30 months of existence. Later he was the Postal Clerk at the Phoenix Post Office until retirement. I remember when I was in high school helping him with his math so he could take the Civil Service exam. He was also on the construction crew of Four Mile Lake. The lake is part of the irrigation system of the valley.

(Continued on page 2)

Pioneer Furry Family, continued from page 1

He was a deer hunter (all the Furry men were) and an avid fisherman, especially at Howard Prairie with his buddy Charlie Ferns. The "Furry Clan" had property up Dead Indian Memorial Road and we still have a small parcel of it—but that's another story. He never spoke much to me about his family, but that's probably because I never asked. Daddy never shared where he picked his mushrooms, he never shared where he picked asparagus out in the orchards, and he never shared his trout fishing holes up on Beaver Dam creeks. He was very secretive! One time, however, after I was married, he took me to pick berries up on Huckleberry Mountain near Union Creek. I was so excited. We got up there and were picking huckleberries when he turned around and looked at me and grinned. He said, "You know, Nannette, the bears love huckleberries." Well, all I did then was spend time looking over my shoulder. I still miss him. He was born 1901 and died December 17, 1975.

He and my mother, Marie Morton (1903-1981), were married in 1923 at the Court House in Jacksonville. His brother, Robert, and his wife, Elva, were witnesses. I have no wedding pictures. I have fond memories of baking cake with Mom, sitting on the front porch steps shelling peas (our victory garden during WWII was a source of much fun for me), and getting a kitten when I had the mumps. When she gave out punishment, I had to go out to the willow tree for a "switch." I think that is why people planted willow trees. She and a group of married lady friends here in Phoenix, I'm sure with the help of their husbands, were responsible for starting the Phoenix Library. Mom also worked as a packing boss at Modoc Packing House in Medford, as an alteration lady at Mann's Department Store and was later Postmistress of the Phoenix Post Office until here retirement.

Mom's dad was James Morton who came to Lane County, Oregon in 1853 as a one year old. His mother died shortly thereafter. He, his dad and grandparents came to the Rogue Valley in the early 1860's and homesteaded on a mountain just south of Roxy Anne. As an adult he was in the mercantile business and while the railroad was being built south from Roseburg he had a "Portable" store that he moved from one camp to another. Then, he hauled freight to Klamath Falls. My home on the northeast corner of 3rd and Church Street was built by Mom and Dad on his property and he lived with them until he died of a stroke. Grandpa Jimmy, as I call him, and his father, Gustin Morton, also are buried in the Phoenix Cemetery.

My mom lived with him here in Phoenix after he and her mother, Eva McCollum Morton, were divorced. Scandalous! I don't know why they divorced. We were never told. I'm not familiar with her as she went back to California to be with her friends and large family. She was quite a religious fanatic and maybe that was just more than Grandpa could live with. Her parents were David and Martha McCollum. He also served in the Civil War—a "rebel" from Missouri.

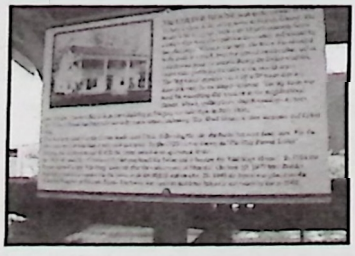
Sisters Pat Furry Popow and Nannette Furry Wrede

Dorothy Cotton, recorder, and Pat Popow & Nannette Wrede

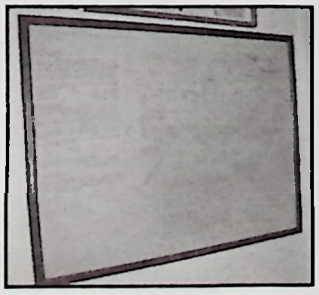
Museum Displays

1880s Orchard Sprayer

Desk from Phoenix Mercantile



Narratives for Colver House Timber Display



1880s Map of Phoenix

Phoenix Historical Society Board Members

Dick Croly: President
Stan Ferns: Vice Pres.
Dorothy Cotton: Secretary
Dorothy Claflin: Treas.
Marti Diviak
Mike McKey
Roberta Ortega
Mike Wrede

PHOENIX: A violent start, then a social center by Dani Dodge of the *Mail Tribune*

The town's beginnings weren't just meager, they were violent. The first recorded settlement in Phoenix occurred in June of 1851 when Major Phillip Kearney made camp. Kearney had fought with Indians near Willow Springs that day, and although neither side won the battle, Captain James Stewart was killed—shot through the groin with an arrow. Kearney named the camp after Stewart and the stream, now known as Bear Creek, was named Stewart Creek. Kearney was in the area searching for a better road than the one that followed the old Applegate Trail of 1846.

Despite these painful beginnings and its up and downs afterward, Phoenix was more often a place of solidarity and friendship among its residents, a friendship that was shared at the many dances held in town.

"We used to give dances in the Grange Hall every Saturday night and that was the thing to go to in the valley...in the '30's, the '40's and the '50's," according to Kathryn Stancliffe, 85, who graduated from Phoenix High School in 1927.

"They still have dances now and then, but not like then...You didn't miss that Saturday night dance."

Even in the late 1850's, after the culmination of the Rogue Indian War, dancing was a major pastime among Phoenix residents.

"During the years prior to the gold strike (1858, when gold was discovered in northeastern Oregon and Washington), the popular amusements consisted principally of dancing parties, held generally in the Oatman hotel, but occasionally in Colver Hall, where also were held traveling shows and public gatherings of various kinds," recalled Orsen Stearns in "Early Days in Phoenix, Oregon," a book by Marjorie Neill Helms published in 1954.

Sam Colver, considered one of the first residents of Phoenix, built the Colver House in 1855. The big white building still stands at 150 S. Main St. (Editor's note: The Colver House was destroyed by fire in 2008.)

It was intended to serve as a hotel, store and rendezvous for settlers during the Indian troubles, according to Stearns, who was a close friend of the Colver family. But the house wasn't used as a public inn until the 1920s because Colver's wife, Huldah, felt the bulk of the work would fall on her while he was out front entertaining guests.

The town's post office opened Jan.3, 1857.

While the civil war brought prosperity to Phoenix because of the proximity to Camp Baker—which was about a mile southeast of the town of Gasburg (Phoenix)—the postwar period was a difficult time.

The Democrat Times of Jacksonville reported on Feb. 12, 1875, that Phoenix was a "city that was, but now is living in the glories of the past, for decay, desolation and death are inscribed on her moldering walls and ruined temples."

The reporter did note that the town had two excellent grist mills, a store, tavern, school and a flourishing order of Good Templars (a prohibitionist group).

"It's people are temperate, industrious and always ready for a dance or a revival," the Democrat Times noted.

By 1884, railroad tracks reached Phoenix and three years later a southbound train met a northbound train in Ashland.

In her book, Helms asserts that all during the 1880s, "Phoenix was a happy little town."

But in 1891, Sam Colver, the first resident of Phoenix, became lost in a February snowstorm and died.

However in the 1920s, the Colver House was still a centerpiece of the town, according to Stancliffe.

Agnes "Babe" Anderson, a Colver by birth, says the family moved out of the Colver house in the mid-1920s when she was about 12.

"Dad thought it was time...we had property conjoining it and he was going to be building a smaller house. We didn't use the upstairs (in the Colver house)," Anderson remembers.

Miff Prettymen bought it for a road house, calling it the Blue Flower Lodge.

After a few more owners, the place became apartments in the early 1940s, Anderson says.

Stancliffe says she remembers being at many banquets and dances upstairs at the house over the years after the Covers moved out.

Phoenix Planning Commission Chairman Jerry Greer is the current owner. He has received preliminary approvals to make it into a bed-and-breakfast inn, taking it back to its original purpose.

During the 1920s and '30s, many people in the area worked in logging and the budding agriculture business.

In the 1920s, there was an expansion of housing and business and most people shopped for their groceries at the Mercantile on Main Street.

The store owner was named Mr. Hearn and he let people charge their groceries, Stancliffe says.

"He was the most rusting person. He felt (that) if a person needed food they should have it," Stancliffe says. "If I think about the chances he took letting these people charge during the Depression...But I understand practically everyone paid their debts."

Stancliffe remembers at least five churches in the small town during the 1920s and 1940s.

"Particularly in the '40s when the war was going on... churchgoing was quite the thing because, of course, at that time they were referring to the Bible and saying this is the end of the world," Stancliffe says.

At that time many women, including as Stancliffe herself, went to work in the pear-packing plants because it was so profitable. Wages started at 25 cents an hour.

Many people worked at the packing houses in Medford, but there also were fruit-packing houses in Phoenix near the railroad tracks and First Street. The Stancliffe brothers built one of the first packing houses there in the mid-1920s.

Stancliffe used the money she earned to put herself through Southern Oregon State College in Ashland, which was then called the Southern Oregon Normal School. (Editor's note: It is now known as Southern Oregon University.)

Phoenix continued to grow into the 1950s, when Stancliffe began a push for people to keep their yards up.

"I felt Phoenix could make vast improvements if people would keep their yards up," she said. "That really caught on."

She was the first elected woman mayor from 1952 to 1954, but declined to run again.

In the 1950s, the spirit of neighborliness led to annual May Festivals, in which money was raised to improve the city.

"The festival helped us to build the community hall and the spirit spread to everyone keeping up their homes," she says.

The festivals died off as people became more interested in raising money for schools in the 1970s.

Taken from **Our Valley, Our Communities**, March 27, 1994, *Mail Tribune*, Medford, Ore.

Phoenix Historical Society & Museum
607 N. Church Street
P. O. Box 1466
Phoenix, Oregon 97535

Telephone (541)512-0614

Open Weekdays
1 p.m. to 4 or 5 p.m.

YOU CAN BE A MEMBER

of Phoenix Historical Society for just $5 a year or $10 for a family. Join now and help preserve the history of *Phoenix* and the surrounding area.

Any historical information regarding Phoenix would be much appreciated by anyone receiving this newsletter. Please send to above address or editor.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Little Town

I like to live in a little town,
Where the trees meet across the street.

Where you wave your hand and say "hello"
To everyone you meet.

I like to stand for a moment
Outside the grocery store

And listen to the friendly gossip
Of the folks that live next door.

For life is interwoven
With the friends we learn to know;

And we hear their joys and sorrows
As we daily come and go.

So I like to live in a little town,
I care no more to roam,

For every house in a little town
Is more than a house; it's home.

THE PACIFIC LUMBER COMPANY

Museum Musings

Welcome to Phoenix Historical Society's newly elected Board members: Marti Diviak and Roberta Ortega. They both bring important assets and will complement the overall operation of PHS.

PHS is happy to see Glen Bailey up and about.

It is with sadness that we report the passing of PHS Board member Judi Lichtenstein following the also recent death of husband Louis. They were both very active in Phoenix area activities and will be greatly missed by all.

The museum continues to put up with sewer construction and road closures after being closed for a month due to the disruption.

A guest speaker, Betty Henshaw, will enhance our regular PHS meeting February 8th at 7:00 pm. She will be sharing tales of the dust bowl migration west from her book Children of the Dust.

Phoenix Historical Society will be hosting the monthly Jackson County Heritage Association meeting for the month of February on the 10th at 10:00 am. Hope to see you there.

The broad axe and adz are currently mounted for display with the Colver House timber.

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A broad axe is a large-headed axe used for shaping logs by hand hewing. The one on display at PHS had one side flat and the other side beveled.,a basilled edge. The handle curves away from the basilled side to allow a flush stroke when hewing a flat plane on the side of a log. The flat blade is to make the flat surface, and the curved handle is to enable the user to stand on the object being worked on and hew on the appropriate side. (Note: This style axe predated the guillotine.)

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The Gasburg Gazette

Volume 7, Issue 2

Spring 2011

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A Golden Vision

Dwight Zulauf, Phoenix High School graduate and former dean of Pacific Lutheran University School of Business, was one of two men who founded the business school which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Dwight Zulauf and Gundar King were doctoral candidates 50 years ago, two young bucks with academic ambitions. And Pacific Lutheran University was still generally known as Pacific Lutheran College, a school just on the cusp of growing into the vision of its president, Seth Eastvold.

"We were cheeky characters," said Gundar King. It was King, along with Dwight Zulauf, who founded what became the Pacific Lutheran University School of Business.

"I had to teach all courses except accounting," King recalled a few weeks ago, as the school began final preparations for a golden anniversary celebration.

"I wasn't an experienced teacher," said Zulauf. "We started this on a shoestring," said King.

What they started was a school that has, over the past five decades, grown into a respected institution offering both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Its graduates have gone on to become leaders of corporate, academic and nonprofit enterprises.

"We wanted a quality school to attract students, professors and the community, and have brand recognition," said Zulauf. "And to be accredited." (The school is indeed accredited.)

The two soon-to-be founders met at an academic conference at Stanford. The idea of a new business school was not readily accepted. "It was not something that was usually done," said King. "Liberal arts colleges didn't particularly want professional schools." "We were foolishly brave," he said. "I think we were the first evening MBA program on this side of the state," said Zulauf.

The challenge was to teach business without losing the liberal arts base and the Lutheran values of faith, service and truth.

(continued on Page 2)

1896 Ball Game In Phoenix Recalled By Local Resident by George Porter

I remember very pleasantly making quite an extended trip in July of 1896, going all the way from Medford up to Gasburg (now Phoenix) to see a ball game between Phoenix and Jacksonville.

It was a very warm July day and I saddled up the old horse we owned and rode from Medford to Phoenix.

When I arrived, the ball game was underway, Jacksonville being at bat. I asked one of Phoenix fellows how the score stood. There seemed to be a great deal of enthusiasm as to the outcome of the game. He told me the game stood 10 for Jacksonville and 0 for Phoenix.

I said that is a pretty discouraging score and the Phoenix native said he didn't think so and that Phoenix hadn't been up to bat yet. Needless to say the score moved to considerable proportion. Finally, however, Phoenix won the contest.

I then rode back home to Medford. My father noticed that the horse was lathered pretty badly, having been speeded along to Phoenix and back. He asked where in the world have you been and I said I've been up to Phoenix to see a ball game. He said couldn't you have thought of a place farther away where they had a ball game. It seems as though the distance makes no difference to you.

All of which was quite reasonable, going to Phoenix in those days was quite a trip.

Taken from the June 20, 1934 *Mail Tribune.*

The Thursday Club

Come to the museum and see the Thursday Club display on loan to the museum and created by Marti Diviak.

The Thursday Club started as the Who-Do Club in 1924, and changed their name shortly after.

The group of young mothers with babies as they called themselves, decided to DO Things, and their first project was the library. They held fundraisers to pay the librarian.

Their idea of a Community Center took shape, they donated $300.00 to the cause and held more fundraisers such as card parties, dances, bingo and plays that traveled 'round the valley to other communities.

They started the May Festival to raise money for the Community Club and Youth Center on the grounds where the library now stands. Other Phoenix organizations joined the cause and the Center opened in 1950.

Compiled by Marti Diviak.

Thursday Club members Gladys Sloan, Alice Halgren, Marie Furry, Helen Consbruck and Kathryn Stancliffe

Community Club float in a 1950s May Festival Parade

Woodford Reames Among Earliest Settlers In Area

Among the earliest settlers in the southern Oregon country was Woodford Reames, who in 1853 located with his family on a donation claim of 320 acres midway between the present towns of Phoenix and Talent.

Reames, a native Kentuckian, came to Oregon directly from Montgomery county, Ill. Where he had lived for several years and where he had learned the blacksmith trade.

It was because of his ability in this trade that he spent the winter of 1852-53 at St. Helens in northern Oregon in the employ of the Hudson Bay Co.

Soon after Reames built a log cabin home on the land where he had decided to locate, such serious trouble with the Indians developed, that it was necessary that Mr. Reames and the children be taken to Fort Wagner near Talent where stockades had been built by the settlers for protection.

After the conclusion of the Rogue River Indian war, life and property were assured greater safety so the family returned to their own land and started to develop a home.

Reames lived on this farm until 1879 when he retired to Jacksonville where he died in 1884. His wife, the former Hulda White, lived until 1891. Five children were in the family.

Taken from June 20, 1934 *Mail Tribune* article.

A Golden Vision, continued from Page 1

Gundar King and Dwight Zulauf share a laugh while discussing their founding of the business school 50 years ago.

PLU President Loren Anderson said that "Every great story has at its beginning a few really marvelous people, people with vision, with determination. Those people, Zulauf and King "are risk-takers, people of courage, people willing to step out and try something when there might be a lot of doubters. That's how things happen. That's how great things in a university are built, how great companies are built. King and Zulauf started it, but the beat goes on."

On March 12 a party at Hotel Murano was held to recognize the founders, the builders and the school they grew.

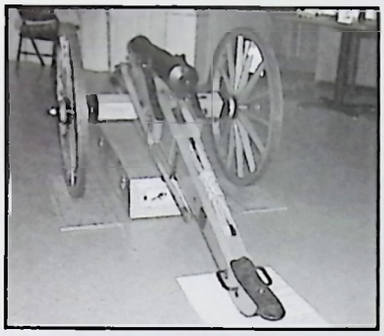
Story by C.R. Roberts for *The News Tribune.*

Phoenix Historical Society Board Members

Dick Croly: President
Stan Ferns: Vice President
Dorothy Cotton: Secretary
Dorothy Claflin: Treasurer
Marti Diviak
Roberta Ortega
Mike McKey
Mike Wrede

Civil War Display

A display of Civil War memorabilia, including a Civil War field piece, have been on view at the museum during April and May in remembrance of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War . Peter Hoyt presented information at the April meeting on the one-half scale replica (cannon) that he created and uses for competition purposes.



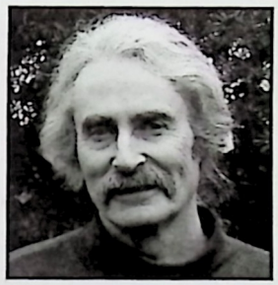
This is a one-half scale replica of a six pound (weight of the projectile) smoothbore gun, model 1841. It was the standard light artillery used by both sides at the beginning of the conflict. Later in the war, the union forces had upgraded to twelve pound bronze Napoleon smoothbore guns, and three inch rifled guns which were much more accurate. The Southern forces kept the little six ponders in action through the war.

A battery of light artillery would consist of three to five guns, each with a limber, or horse-drawn cart, containing powder and shot for the gun. Besides being assigned to support an army in the field, a batter or two of light artillery would often accompany the cavalry. More often than not, a regiment of cavalry would fight on foot, using their horses to move quickly behind enemy lines to strike where least expected. They were armed with repeating rifles, while most foot soldiers carried single shot rifles. Thus, a troop of cavalry, supported by artillery, could take on a much larger force.

Effective range of the full scale six pound gun was about a mile and a half with a solid round shot, and a little less with an exploding shell. The shells were not popular with the gun crews, as only about nine out of ten would actually explode. Undetonated shells are still occasionally unearthed at the battlefiels, though the black powder has been rendered inert over time.

The shells for the smoothbore guns had fuses inside wooden dowels calibrated in hundred yard increments, which were cut off to the appropriate range and driven into the shell casing. The fuse had to face out the muzzle, and was lit by the flash upon exiting the barrel. Occasionally the round shell would roll over, facing the powder charge in the gun. This would cause it to detonate while still inside the barrel, hence the preference for solid shot. Shells for the rifled guns had impact fuses, and were much more reliable.

Solid shot was used at ranges of one half mile or more. It was aimed to hit the ground just in front of the enemy troops to bounce up into them. Additionally, it would throw up a large spray of rocks and gravel, all deadly. At ranges under half a mile, the guns were loaded with canister shot. This was a bag containing twenty one balls about an inch in diameter, making it basically a big shotgun. At a quarter mile range or less, guns would be loaded with two bags of canister. The result would be devastating.



Peter Hoyt

Ginger Rogers Remembered

To celebrate what would have been Ginger Rogers' 100th birthday, a benefit for Southern Oregon Historical Society was held at the Rogue Valley Country Club May 1, 2011 which included an afternoon gourmet tea, fashion show of gowns of Ginger's personal collection, live auction of several gowns, silent auction of a variety of Ginger memorabilia, glitzy and glamorous items and several pairs of Gingers' shoes.

Phoenix Cemetery Upgraded

The Phoenix Pioneer Cemetery has now upgraded two access roads with gravel and road markers, thanks to a grant from the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries.

I would like to remind everyone that this lovely, shaded cemetery in the middle of the city of Phoenix is not owned by the city, but by the people buried there and their families. It is managed by a five-person board and depends solely for its upkeep on donations, volunteer labor and grants.

This several-acre cemetery includes historic grave sites dating from 1874, including the burial places of pioneers Samuel and Huldah Colver. Samuel Colver in 1854 helped settle the Phoenix area and founded the Colver House, a stopover for stage coaches.

The cemetery still has burial plots available. For information call 541-535-~~3702~~ 2782

Mike Wrede, Cemetery Board Chair man, Phoenix

Phoenix Historical Society & Museum
607 N. Church Street
P. O. Box 1466
Phoenix, Oregon 97535

Telephone 541-512-0614

Open Monday through Friday
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

YOU CAN BE A MEMBER

of the Phoenix Historical Society for just $10.00 a person for a year.. Join now and help preserve the history of Phoenix and the surrounding area.

Regular PHS meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Museum.

Any historical information regarding Phoenix would be much appreciated by anyone receiving this newsletter. Please send to above address or rlcmac@clearwire.net.

Museum Musings

Phoenix Historical Society Docents: Roberta Ortega, Lorraine Sexton, Dorothy Claflin, Margaret Croly, Barbara Isaacs, Eleanor Bolz, Nannette Wrede & Pat Popow. Missing are Charlotte Powell and Doris Kane.

The Annual Pizza Party honoring the Board Members and Docents of the Phoenix Historical Society was held April 28th. President Dick Croly thanked everyone for their dedication and efforts.

This is coming somewhat late, but PHS would like to express thanks to Commercial Sign and Design Company of Phoenix for refurbishing the "NO PARKING" signs for the gate.

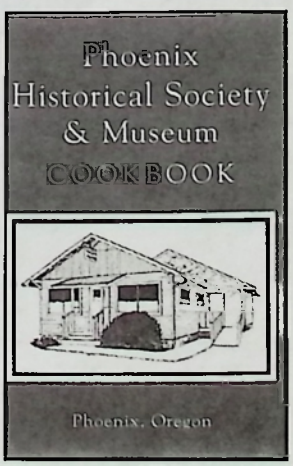
The annual PHS May Cleanup Party will be held at the museum May 10th.

Whiskey decanters, gold plated figurines and Avon collectables are for sale at the museum to raise money for Phoenix Historical Society coffers.

A map of Phoenix as it appeared in 1909 was donated to PHS by Urban Renewal. If anyone has pictures of homes or businesses along Hwy. 99 between 1st Street and 6th Street in the 1940s and 1950s, Urban Renewal would appreciate copies.

Come visit the Civil War Display now on view at the museum. In addition to the cannon already mentioned previously, other memorabilia on loan by members are on display.

The March program was an interesting and informative talk by Emily Morton on how to keep your parents safe. She has written a book Care Enough to Know How to Keep Your Parents Safe. The book is a how-to book for anyone, anyone who is considering any kind of senior living for a loved one.



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The Gasburg Gazette

Volume 7, Issue 3

Summer 2011

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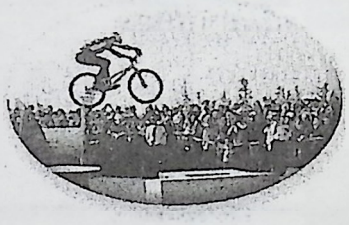
First Annual Phoenix Phestival a Success

The first annual Phoenix Phestival was held August 20, 2011 at the Shoppes at Exit 24. The community came together for a day of local phun, local phood and to highlight the cultural, agricultural, and business benefits in Phoenix.. Phoenix restaurants and regional wines offered the wonderful Phlavors of Phoenix. A phunniest phace contest was held with the winners receiving prizes. There was a kid's phun zone with pirate bouncy house and phace painting. Craft and food vendors pheatured regional arts, crafts, food, community youth and service organizations. Silent and live auctions were held and a music phesstival featured several valley musicians. Jeremy Van Schoonhoven, America's Got Talent 2010 Top 10 Finalist, performed his amazing bike tricks and stunts.



A highlight of the phestival was creating the new world's record longest taco for the Guinness World Book of Records of 177 feet, besting the previous record of 121 feet.

"A dedicated group of taco engineers gathered to begin the massive construction project at just before 5 p.m. With tape measures out, they began laying down tortillas on top of a makeshift table. They quickly plopped shredded marinated chicken on top of the tortillas to keep them from flying away in the breeze. Lettuce, salsa and cheese soon followed."

(Continued on page 2)

Remembering "Curly" Briscoe

Helen Briscoe Heyl found two letters of resolution written to her father in 1952 that brought back good memories. Her dad loved Phoenix and worked so hard to make the Community Club a success.

IN MEMORIAM TO LION
EARL BRISCOE
Phoenix Lions Club
May 6, 1952

Lions, it is time for us to pay tribute to one of our members who will not be with us again.

I would like to say a few words in memory of he who is gone from our midst, and whose death has saddened this, our fourth anniversary. Lion Briscoe will long be remembered by us as one regarded with the greatest respect, appreciation, and affection by his fellow Lions. He was recognized as an able and valued member of his club and of his community, a man of sterling moral fiber, great personal charm, and unswerving loyalty to those high principles which were his. He was a devoted husband and father, and a warm-hearted companion to his friends. He was ever ready to give freely of his time, resources and abilities to those worthy projects which are for the betterment of our of life, and to give of his generous, cheerful self.

Among the many services rendered by Lion Briscoe were those of a member of the Board of Directors of the Lions Club for a number of years, a member of the City Council, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Community Club.

The community has suffered the loss of one of its finest and most valued citizens.

Phoenix Lions Club mourns with heavy hearts the passing of Lion Briscoe, better know to all of us as our old and dear friend, "Curly."

Leonard Halfhill
President

Phoenix Phestival, continued from Page 1

"One extended table wasn't big enough to accommodate the entire taco, so it was snaked around in a daisy chain.

"Most of the ingredients and cooking know how were provided by Katrina's Home-Made Salsa, Si Casa Flores Restaurant, The Old Farm House Restaurant and Foster Farms. For $5, buyers got two tacos and a bumper sticker saying they ate the World's Longest Taco. Proceeds benefitted the Phoenix Community Kitchen.

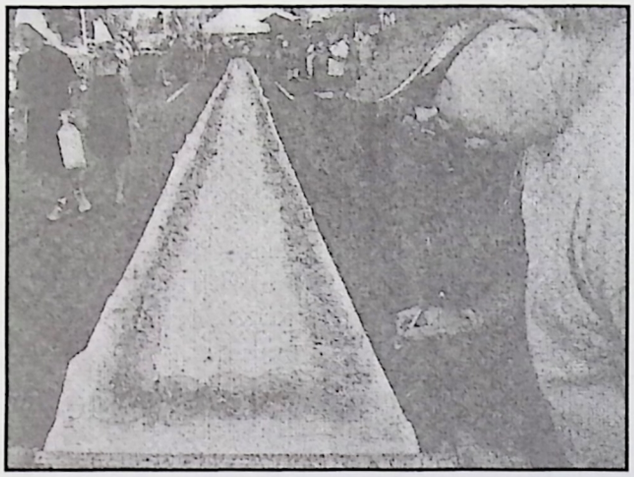
"Cameras were rolling the whole time to document the feat—they had to be. Guinness World Records will only certify the taco record if it's continuously filmed and photographed. Additionally, it must be measured by an independent surveyor.

"Phoenix Phestival events coordinator Jeff Jones said the record for taco length wouldn't be official until Guinness had reviewed the measurements and film.

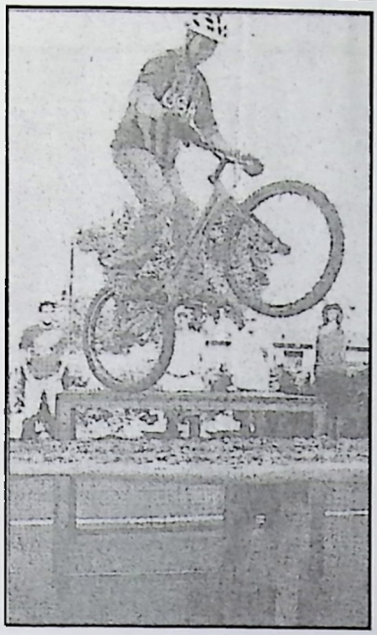
"Using a team of about 14, the taco was completed in about 15 minutes.

"After the final measurements were taken....Jones was as eager to get rid of the taco as he was to build it. 'Let's get this taco eaten up,' he announced to the crowd over a microphone. 'We don't want any of this taco left.'

"The audience seemed happy to oblige him and went to work. By about 5:45 p.m. all evidence of the world's longest taco ever existing had been reduced to a few scraps of lettuce, some spilled cheese and salsa and a lot of napkins."



James Hibbs of Phoenix measures what could be the world's longest line of tacos.



Stunt bike rider Jeremy Van Schoonhoven jumps over the 177-foot-long line of tacos.

Taken from *Mail Tribune*, Sunday, August 21, 2011 article written by Mat Wolf.

Camp Baker

The place selected for Camp Baker was on Coleman Creek, within a short distance of Phoenix, and was said to be a beautiful spot, surrounded by shade trees, and well supplied with wood and water.

It was named after President Abraham Lincoln's former law rival and good friend, Oregon Senator Edward D. Baker, who was killed as the Colonel of the 71st Pennsylvania in the Battle of Balls Bluff.

Unmarked for many years after the post was abandoned, the Camp Baker site received a marker from the Boy Scouts in the summer of 1961.

During the Civil War, the post was a source of security for the area, occasionally also serving as a prison for Southern sympathizers. A Phoenix man was arrested in 1862 for "hurrahing for Jefferson Davis and denouncing the government," according to newspaper accounts, and was put in the camp's guardhouse when he refused to take an oath of allegiance. A few days "laying in the guardhouse" changed his mind, the oath was taken and he was released.

Although originally a cavalry post, the camp received artillery in January of 1862 and the first thirteen rounds were fired. Two men were injured in March when a 13-gun salute was fired, spreading "a deep gloom all through the camp," a soldier's diary noted.

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Stan Ferns: Vice President
Dorothy Cotton: Secretary
Dorothy Claflin: Treasurer
Marti Diviak
Mike McKey
Roberta Ortega
Mike Wrede

1957 Sandwich Menu from Woolworths

F. W. Woolworth Co.

BACON and TOMATO 50c
Toasted Three Decker Sandwich
BAKED HAM and CHEESE 60c
Toasted Three Decker Sandwich
CHICKEN SALAD 65c
Toasted Three Decker Sandwich
HAM SALAD and EGG SALAD 50c
Toasted Three Decker Sandwich

PLAIN or TOASTED SANDWICHES

HAM SALAD Sandwich.....30c
EGG SALAD Sandwich.....30c
AMERICAN CHEESE Sandwich.....30c
PRESSED HAM Sandwich.....30c

FOR A REAL TREAT!
TRY OUR SUPER DELUXE HAM SANDWICH—BAKED HAM SLICED VERY THIN AND STACKED HIGH ON PLAIN BREAD, TOAST OR HARD ROLL
40¢ YOU WILL LIKE IT! 40¢

Fountain Features

DE LUXE
TULIP SUNDAE 25c
2 Dippers of Ice Cream covered with Crushed Fruit or Fresh Fruit in Season
Choice of STRAWBERRY, PINEAPPLE, CHERRY, CHOCOLATE OR HOT FUDGE
Topped with Whipped Topping Crushed Nuts and Cherry

SUPER JUMBO
BANANA SPLIT 39c
1/2 Banana covered with 3 Dippers of Ice Cream and Crushed Fruit or Fresh Fruit in Season
Choice of STRAWBERRY, PINEAPPLE, CHERRY, CHOCOLATE OR HOT FUDGE
Topped with Whipped Topping and Salted Nuts

EXTRA RICH
ICE CREAM SODA 25c
POPULAR FLAVORS
Made with 2 Dippers of Ice Cream
Crushed Fruit or Fresh Fruit in Season

MALTED MILK 25c
Popular FLAVORS Made with 2 Dippers of Ice Cream
MILK SHAKE 25c
Popular FLAVORS Made with 2 Dippers of Ice Cream
BANANA SPLIT Regular 25c
Popular FLAVORS Made with 3 Dippers of Ice Cream
FRESH ORANGE JUICE..... Regular 20c Large 30c
Freshly Squeezed to Order

DRINK Coca-Cola
KING SIZE 10¢

HOT NESTLE'S WITH WHIPPED TOPPING.....15c
AND WAFERS

Home Style Desserts
APPLE PIE .....Per Cut 15c
Top Delicious with Ice Cream
LAYER CAKE .....Per Cut 15c
Top Delicious with Ice Cream

WOOLWORTH COFFEE—ALWAYS GOOD

HAVE A COKE Coca-Cola SOLD HERE AND FOUNTAIN

Lillie Meyers

Gayleen Hanscom & Stan Ferns

Mike Wrede & Dorothy Cotton

May Work Party Got the Job Done!

Thanks to all those who turned out for the annual spring cleanup party at the museum, the job was accomplished with dispatch.

Root beer floats were enjoyed by those putting forth effort.

Joe Stewart & Dad

Janie Stewart & Roberta Ortega

Nannette Wrede

Phoenix Historical Society & Museum
607 N. Church Street
P. O. Box 1466
Phoenix, Oregon 97535

Telephone 541-512-0614

Open Monday through Friday
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

YOU CAN BE A MEMBER

of Phoenix Historical Society for just $10 a person for a year. Join now and help preserve the history of Phoenix and the surrounding area.

Regular PHS meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Museum.

Any historical information regarding Phoenix would be much appreciated by anyone receiving this newsletter. Please send to above address or rlcmac@clearwire.net.

Museum Musings

Phoenix Historical Society set up a booth at the Phoenix Phestival. Thanks go to Lorraine Sexton, Dorothy Cotton, Barbara Issacs and Dick Croly for setting up and manning the booth. Several visitors stopped by and expressed interest in the museum.

How many of you noticed the Phoenix Museum/Phoenix Historical Society ad in a recent Valpak sent my mail? Barbara Issacs, Dorothy Cotton and Dick Croly were responsible for acquiring this great publicity.

Dorothy Claflin gave a talk this summer about all the accomplishments the historical society/museum group has made since it's beginnings in 1998. It's important to revisit these accomplishments every now and then to see the progress we've made.

Thanks to Nannette Wrede for calling members reminding them of the next meeting or special event.

The cannon is back! Peter Hoyt is once again allowing us to view his one-half scale replica of a six pound smoothbore gun, model 1841.

Come visit the museum. New items keep coming in for display.

Dorothy Cotton has been busily preparing Phoenix area related post cards for sale at 25 cents each. Fun to send to friends and relatives.

Mysteries in Our Backyard is a collaborative project of the Southern Oregon Historical Society and the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society, with participation by members of the Jackson County Heritage Association (JCHA), the Jackson County Library System, Southern Oregon University, and individual cemetery groups and organizations in Jackson County. You are invited to submit "mysteries" for participants to "claim" as the mystery they would like to research.

Don't miss the October 11th museum meeting when guest speaker Charleen Brown will be presenting a program called "Lost Towns of the Rogue Valley.

Jo Brew, a recent visitor at the museum, is compiling material for the book she is writing about people and places on Highway 99 in years past.

Don't forget that we still have cookbooks for sale at the museum if you need a quick and interesting gift.

Phoenix Historical Society
Organized in 1998; Opened in 1999

Margaret (Bolz) Croly, Editor
E-mail: rlcmac@clearwire.net

The Gasburg Gazette

Volume 7, Issue 4

Fall 2011

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Phoenix: Church-going community allows social gambling

Paradox also shows in school -city relations

"The City of Phoenix is a paradox.

"Facts about Phoenix can be assembled to prove almost any statement describing the town:

"It is a conservative church-going community. Citizens voted to allow social gambling including card rooms. There are the same number, five of each.

"The Presbyterian, Baptist, Nazarene, Church of Christ and Neighborhood Churches are well-attended. The city has ordinances against excessive noise during services. A Sing-spiration is held monthly on Sunday evenings and is ecumenical. There is an ordinance against fortune-telling and the occult arts.

"One of the best-attended council meetings in a long time occurred in January when a large delegation of church people protested against a rumored request by social lodges to hold charitable games of chance in the community hall.

"When local option on social gambling was granted by the state, the council approved. An initiative petition against the ordinance was defeated in the Nov. 5, 1974, election. Apparently the establishments have flourished since the proprietors did not protest a jump in table license fees.

"School-city government relations also have followed a contradictory course.

"School District 4 is far larger geographically than the city. It includes Talent, southeast Medford and the rural areas surrounding them and Phoenix. The district's high school and one of the two elementary schools lie within the city.

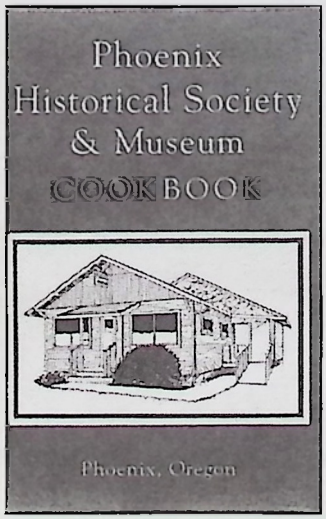
"There are areas of agreement and goodwill. Citizens through the Booster Club have contributed money and labor to build new bleachers, at no cost to the district, at the high school stadium.

"A council meeting was cancelled for graduation exercises.

"High school students helped the city take traffic counts where Fern Valley Road crossed Main Street. They were, in part, responsible for

(Continued on page 2)

Cookbooks For Sale



"The Briscoe Resolution"

City Recorder
Phoenix, Oregon
May 7, 1952

WHEREAS our beloved fellow-councilman, Earl G. Briscoe, has been taken from us by death since our last meeting, now, there:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: We, the Mayor and Common Council of Phoenix, Oregon, hereby express our appreciation for the many years of faithful and untiring service rendered by the late Earl G. Briscoe to this city.

He was interested in every project for the betterment of the city and familiarized himself with every department of its government and freely gave his counsel and help at all times.

His untiring service and friendly humor will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution be spread on the minutes of the Council and that a copy be sent to the Briscoe Family.

Signed
Elverton R. Griffin
Mayor
Councilman
Councilman
Councilman
Councilman

Attest :

Phoenix Paradox, continued from Page 1

the successful effort of the city to get approval of stop lights by the State Department of Transportation. The four-way lights will be installed in the near future.

"A conditional use permit was granted Feb. 2 to the Parent Teachers Association to use a mobile home for a non-profit kindergarten.

"However, citizens defeated school budgets which would have provided for kindergartens.

"Although parents and faculty pleaded and fought against removal of a stop sign at a well-traveled street crossing, the council would not alter its decision.

"Currently school and city are embroiled in a legal dispute. The city approves light industrial expansion in an area the school says will present traffic hazards and noise problems.

"The population is divided between old families who have occupied the same homes for years or a lifetime, some lately-arrived 'permanents,' and the transient. It was necessary last month to pass a regulation that owners of rental property are responsible for water bills. As City Recorder Frances Stevenson explained to the council, renters move in and out so fast that we often do not know they have either come or gone.

"Apartments and duplexes nuzzle historic homes. Older structures and modern architecture sit side by side. Land use planning is new to Phoenix and because of adherence to the grandfather clause a certain 'jumble' will exist for a long time.

"Phoenix thinks of itself as a bedroom community, yet the business section is growing and there is industry along the railroad tracks. It prides itself that mobile homes are not permitted except in trailer parks. On the other hand, it has given permission for mobile units for Sunday School classrooms and at the schools.

"Older residents, in age or length of residence, and the business sector support bicentennial projects. They attend the annual Memorial Day Service in the old Phoenix Cemetery. Wives belong to the Garden Club and the Thursday Club. This is the settled portion of the community.

"Another segment stands apart and does not participate. It is difficult to find enough willing citizens to fill all official positions, especially on the planning commission and lay committees.

"Phoenix is not a wealthy community. A study completed by the planning commission in December, 1974, reported per capita income at $2,432 (1970 figures). During the same period, Jackson County per capita income was $2,884 and Oregon per capita income $3,163.

"In an effort to remain within the 6 per cent limitation, budget committees have been forced to deny many worthwhile requests for such amenities as a municipal swimming pool and park land development.

"Phoenix problems are similar to those of other small towns. With a population of 1,1610, the tax base is almost too low to support the modern sewer (Phoenix contracts with the Bear Creek Valley Sanitary Authority), water system expansion (the city has artesian wells and chlorinates the water), and at the same time provide all the other services the public desires. Many streets needing paving or major repair. There is a drainage problem in some sections.

"Revenue sharing has been a most welcome 'gift.' Extra help received under the Comprehensive Employment Training Act is used gratefully, especially in the city offices to cope with the 'mountains of paper work' also provided by government agencies.

"A third part of the Phoenix population, permanent residents and home-owners would like progress, but feel that offers of help and advice are rejected by the earlier arrivals. 'Unless you are the seventh son of a seventh son, you cannot succeed in local politics,' one man said.

"The contradictory side of the picture is that he and many others chose to live in Phoenix; yet when opportunity to move away is offered, will not.

"They enjoy the comparative quiet, the lack of serious crime, the tree-lined streets and recognize that with and possibly because of, its faults, Phoenix is 'good to live in, a place to raise a family.' "

By Betty Miller

Taken from *The Medford Mail Tribune*, Feb. 15, 1976.

Eleanor Bolz ~ Phoenix Citizen Spotlight by Lyla Heigl

In 1937, a young woman followed her family to the Rogue Valley. She was born and raised near the Platt River in Nebraska. Her name was Eleanor Jarman and a few years later she met and married Walter Bolz.

While raising her three children she became very involved in the community. She served as a Brownie and Girl Scout Leader, was active in the PTA, and taught Sunday School at the First Presbyterian Church. She held a variety of jobs; at the Rogue Bakery, in the cafeteria of both the elementary and high schools serving lunches and also at the Associated Fruit Company.

Though she retired in 1968, she remained and is still active playing Pinochle, making greeting cards, and attends the First Presbyterian Church. She also grows flowers and vegetables in her garden and volunteers at the Phoenix Museum. She enjoys music and most recently attended the Jazz Festival. At home she cares for Molly, her indoor cat and also four outdoor cats that found their way to her door.

Because Eleanor's husband's family lived in Phoenix for so many years, Bolz Road was named after them.

Thanks to the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce for this article.

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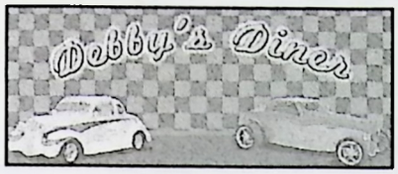
Phoenix's Well-Loved Debby's Diner Groundbreaking



Debby's Diner has enjoyed remarkable success since the day it first opened in April, 2008. Yes, *that's right—just as the entire global economy was in a free fall.* As Debby Hartnell will tell you, she and her husband, Paul, were too far along in the planning process to stop. And the rest is history.

Upon opening their doors, an adoring, loyal following packed their diner for breakfast and lunch—every day. They had to expand—not once, but twice, to accommodate an ever-growing throng of fans. Soon-to-be displaced due to the planned Phoenix Interchange expansion, Debby's Diner is going to relocate nearby on Highway 99. Now don't go feeling too sorry for them because they are having a brand new restaurant built to their specifications. In fact, Debby and Paul bought the old 1890's Jacksonville Pharmacy soda fountain counter and will be installing it as a centerpiece near their new entrance.

And that one landmark is just the beginning of what has to be one of the bigger collections of 1950's memorabilia in the valley—from photos dating back to yesteryear to present-day photos of proud owners standing next to their vintage classic cars. Everything is authentic to a 50's diner experience—including a jukebox in the corner "spinning the platters that matter." Add to that "food like Momma used to make," and there's little wonder why Debby's Diner has earned such a dedicated following.

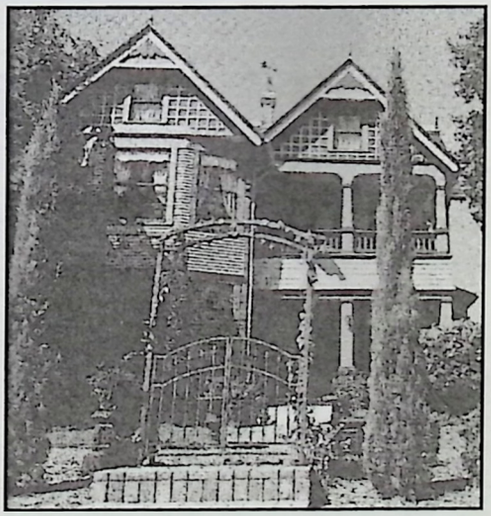
All of this underscores why so many devoted customers and community members turned out to support and be a part of their groundbreaking ceremony. Over 150 people attended this "groundbreaking" —so many so that General Contractor Russ Batzer commented that "this is the single largest turnout for a groundbreaking event we've ever witnessed in this company's history!" And this writer can attest to that because he was among them. You see, Debby and Paul Hartnell came to SOREDI almost a year to the day to explore their options in expanding and relocating. In the process, SOREDI was able to provide them with a modest loan and helped play a role in their expansion plans. And now it is becoming a reality. We'll see you there mid-February, 2012.

Article by Alex Pawlowski, Southern Oregon Economic Development, Inc.
Reprinted from Nov. 2011 Phoenix Chamber of Commerce newsletter.

Darkwing Manor

The 1908 Victorian home located along Coleman Creek Road in greater Phoenix once again terrified Halloween visitors as it was transformed into "Darkwing Manor." The George A. Hover House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is the home of Tim and Tina Reuwsaat who became Baron Vladimer and Baroness Morticia Reuwsaat for their guests.

About 90 volunteers help turn the home into Darkwing Manor and Morguetorium Museum every year. Several weekends are spent readying and dismantling the site for this annual event.



"Haunted History: The haunted past of the old, historic Hover House predates Darkwing Manor.

"Elizabeth Canfield, daughter of the home's second owners, died when she choked on a plum in the early 1930's. Her mother locked the girl's bedroom and playroom for 20 years, only occasionally allowing former playmates to tiptoe upstairs for a peek.

"After Tim and Tina Reuwsaat purchased the Hover House, two of Elizabeth's childhood friends returned, in the flesh, to bestow some of the girl's books—keepsakes from her funeral. At Halloween, a character not unlike the young girl who choked on a plum appears to offer visitors a fruity treat.

"This year's haunt was expected to be the biggest yet. The attraction was named the 2010 Home Haunt of the Year by the Home Haunters Association.

"Donations this year benefitted victims of domestic violence."

(Taken from *Homelife Magazine*, Oct. 27, 2011; written by Buffy Pollock; photo by Alisha Jucevic)

NO 100 Degree Weather This Past Summer

For only the fifth time since 1911 when the National Weather Service started keeping records in Medford, a Rogue Valley summer passed without temperatures topping 100.

June and July began cooler and recorded temperatures below normal for the two months. June's average temperature was 78.2 degrees and July's average was 86. August averaged temperatures a little warmer than normal with 91.3. Temperatures were the hottest in September with a high of 99 degrees being reached.

A record for the latest arrival of triple-digit temperatures was not made. Sept. 8, 1963 maintained that record.

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Happy Thanksgiving!

Remembrances of the Colver House

Nellie Rose Jones, granddaughter of Sam and Huldah Colver, writes about her childhood in the Colver house: "In the evenings... Grandma Colver sat by the large, round center table, on which always rested the big family Bible and she would read her daily chapter in the Good Book.

"Then the Christmas celebrations at Grandma Colver's! The picture that stands out foremost in my mind is that of the tree itself as it stood in the bedroom north of the dining room. This Christmas tree, as I recall it, was surely more perfect in shape than any of our trees today. The limbs seem to have been the same length from floor to ceiling—probably the tree had been topped—and then, of course, due allowance must be made for the fact that I am now seeing it through the glass of time.

"For Christmas decorations, there was an abundance of mistletoe to be had fresh from the oak trees. Sacks made of mosquito netting and sewed with red yarn were filled with candy, nuts, and oranges and hung from the limbs. Christmas cards, dolls and mysterious packages were tied to the tree. Lighted candles were on the tip of each limb from floor to ceiling and there were cookies tied with red ribbons, strings of popcorn and other strings made of our own lovely red madrone berries which grew in such abundance around Phoenix. Gold and silver tinsel also helped to make this wonderful tree a thing of beauty to the eager, waiting children.

"The most beautiful picture in my memory is of the old house as it looked on a May day, about 1890. The orchard was in full bloom, the lilacs were in bloom, the roses were unfolding their petals and the locust and tamarack trees were in blossom. I shall never again see such beauty and smell such fragrances surround this old home at that time."

Excerpts from Early Days in Phoenix by Marjorie Neill Helms.

Annual Christmas Pizza Party

Phoenix Museum
December 13, 2011
6:00 pm

Pizza & Drinks Provided

Bring Pickup Foods Or Appetizers

Instead of Gifts, Make a Donation to the Museum